



HUD NEWS

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FOR RELEASE

Tuesday
March 1, 2011

HUD AWARDS OVER \$40 MILLION IN GRANTS TO FIGHT HOUSING AND LENDING DISCRIMINATION

Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia Receives \$149,404 Grant

RICHMOND– The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today awarded \$40.8 million to 108 fair housing organizations and non-profit agencies in 36 states and the District of Columbia to educate the public and combat housing and lending discrimination (see attached list of grantees). Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia, Inc. received a \$149,404 grant. This year's national award represents a \$13.2 million increase over last year's award and includes \$10 million to fund activities that address lending discrimination, including mortgage rescue scams.

"The record increase in support to local fair housing and community organizations demonstrates the Obama Administration's firm commitment to ending housing discrimination and providing help to families victimized by mortgage scams," stated HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan.

"Ending housing discrimination takes more than the efforts of Washington," said John Trasvina, HUD's Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity. "These grants enable community groups all over the nation to help HUD enforce the Fair Housing Act, make the public more aware of their fair housing rights and ensure that housing providers understand their responsibilities under the law."

The grants announced today are funded through HUD's [*Fair Housing Initiatives Program \(FHIP\)*](#) and will be used to investigate allegations of housing discrimination, educate the public and the housing industry about their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, and work to promote equal housing opportunities.

"It is HUD's mission to build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination," said HUD Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent. "This grant money will increase support to local community education and enforcement efforts to prevent housing discrimination across the country."

The categories grants were awarded in include:

- **Private Enforcement Initiative grants (PEI)** – HUD awarded \$28 million to support organizations that investigate alleged housing discrimination, and enforce the Fair Housing Act and state and local laws that are substantially equivalent to the Act. Groups will also use the funding to conduct testing to protect individuals living in minority neighborhoods from mortgage rescue scams.
- **Education and Outreach Initiative grants (EOI)** – HUD awarded \$6.8 million to organizations that educate the public and housing providers about their rights and obligations under federal, state, and local fair housing laws. Groups will also conduct fair lending workshops, community meetings, and individual counseling activities focused on homeowners at risk for discrimination.

- **Fair Housing Organizations Initiative grants (FHOI)** – HUD awarded \$6 million to organizations serving rural and immigrant populations in areas lacking existing fair housing organizations, or otherwise underserved. Included will be activities that provide direct assistance to victims of fraudulent or predatory mortgage rescue schemes.

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HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business.

More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

Virginia Grant Summary

VIRGINIA

Richmond

Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia, Inc. (HOME)

Private Enforcement Initiative – Mortgage Rescue

Scam Component - \$149,404

Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia, Inc. (HOME) will use its grant to: investigate loan modification and other mortgage rescue scams for violations of fair housing laws and/or consumer protection laws and evaluate whether or not the scams are targeted at minority communities (or any other protected class under fair housing laws) and educate the public across Virginia about such scams; and conduct a systemic investigation of foreclosed and transferred home loans to determine if predatory loans were and still are being made in the Richmond, VA; Chesterfield County, VA and Henrico, VA vicinities at different rates in predominantly African-American or white neighborhoods. If violations are uncovered, HOME will work to address these impediments.

Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) Grants Fiscal Year 2010

State	Recipient	Grant Type	Amount
AL	Central Alabama Fair Housing Center	PEI	\$274,000
	Fair Housing Center of Northern Alabama	PEI	\$275,000
	Mobile Fair Housing Center, Inc.	EOI	\$118,734
		PEI	\$275,000
AZ	Arizona Fair Housing Center	PEI	\$325,000
	Southwest Fair Housing Council	EOI	\$124,786
		PEI	\$274,309
		PEI	\$323,689
CA	Bay Area Legal Aid	PEI	\$325,000
	California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000
		PEI	\$250,000
	Fair Housing Council of	PEI	\$293,580

	Central California		
	Fair Housing of Marin	PEI	\$324,997
	Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, Inc. (GBLA)	FHOI	\$441,743
	Housing and Economic Rights Advocates	FHOI	\$145,210
	Inland Mediation Board	FHOI	\$726,993
		PEI	\$325,000
	Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.	EOI	\$115,500
	Orange County Fair Housing Council, Inc.	PEI	\$304,000
	Project Sentinel, Inc.	PEI	\$273,788
	San Francisco Consumer Action	EOI	\$1,000,000
	Southern California Housing Rights Center	PEI	\$324,938
	The Fair Housing Council of Riverside County, Inc.	PEI	\$397,403
CT	Connecticut Fair Housing Center, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
		PEI	\$325,000
DC	Equal Rights Center	PEI	\$325,000
	Housing Counseling Services	EOI	\$125,000
	Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law	FHOI	\$499,992
	National Community Reinvestment Coalition	EOI	\$232,707
		FHOI	\$486,601
		PEI	\$500,000
		PEI	\$315,256
	National Fair Housing Alliance	EOI	\$1,000,000
		EOI	\$767,293
		FHOI	\$994,211
		PEI	\$498,640
DE	Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.	PEI	\$297,657
FL	Affordable Housing Centers of America	EOI	\$79,819
	Bay Area Legal Services, Inc.	PEI	\$278,914
	Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, Inc.	PEI	\$300,000
		PEI	\$325,000
	Fair Housing Center of the Greater Palm Beaches, Inc.	PEI	\$311,694
	Fair Housing Continuum, Inc.	PEI	\$315,000
	Housing Opportunities Project	EOI	\$125,000

	for Excellence, Inc.	PEI	\$325,000
	Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc.	EOI	\$124,743
		PEI	\$274,752
		PEI	\$499,970
	Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
	Mid-Florida Housing Partnership, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
GA	Metro Fair Housing Services, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000
HI	Legal Aid Society of Hawaii	PEI	\$275,000
ID	Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc.	EOI	\$103,699
	Intermountain Fair Housing Council, Inc.	PEI	\$324,839
IL	Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago	PEI	\$325,000
	Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc.	PEI	\$325,000
	HOPE Fair Housing Center	PEI	\$274,491
	Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs	PEI	\$235,687
	John Marshall Law School	PEI	\$274,958
	Prairie State Legal Services, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
	SER Jobs for Progress, Inc	PEI	\$140,369
	South Suburban Housing Center	PEI	\$273,505
		PEI	\$150,000
	The John Marshall Law School	EOI	\$99,980
		EOI	\$124,994
KS	Urban League of Kansas Inc.	FHOI	\$273,007
KY	Lexington Fair Housing Council, Inc.	PEI	\$260,477
LA	Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
		PEI	\$325,000
MA	Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston	PEI	\$274,750
		PEI	\$500,000
	HAP, Inc.	EOI	\$121,637
	Housing Discrimination Project	PEI	\$325,000
	Legal Assistance Corporation of Central Massachusetts	PEI	\$237,933
ME	Pine Tree Legal Assistance	PEI	\$325,000
MI	Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan	PEI	\$183,549
		PEI	\$302,766

	Fair Housing Center of West Michigan	PEI	\$274,604
	Fair Housing of Metropolitan Detroit	PEI	\$180,740
	LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN	PEI	\$259,384
MN	Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis	PEI	\$325,000
		PEI	\$356,365
	Minneapolis Urban League	EOI	\$124,447
MO	Metropolitan St.Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council	PEI	\$272,614
	Missouri Commission on Human Rights	EOI	\$124,917
MS	Fair Housing Center of the Gulf Coast Region of Mississippi	PEI	\$325,000
MT	City of Billings	EOI	\$125,000
	Montana Fair Housing, Inc.	PEI	\$176,652
NE	Family Housing Advisory Services, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000
	High Plains Community Development Corp., Inc.	EOI	\$120,570
NH	New Hampshire Legal Assistance	PEI	\$324,972
NJ	Fair Housing Council of Northern New Jersey	PEI	\$325,000
NV	Silver State Fair Housing Council	PEI	\$268,606
NY	AAFE Community Development Fund, Inc.	EOI	\$100,000
	Fair Housing Council of Central New York, Inc.	PEI	\$323,870
	FAIR HOUSING JUSTICE CENTER, INC.	PEI	\$324,991
	Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc.	PEI	\$263,846
	Legal Assistance of Western NY, Inc.	PEI	\$277,000
	Legal Services NYC Staten Island	PEI	\$471,932
	Long Island Housing Services	PEI	\$275,000
	Neighborhood Econ. Dev. Advocacy Project	EOI	\$125,000
		EOI	\$22,376
	Queens Legal Services Corporation	FHOI	\$498,753
	South Brooklyn Legal Services, Inc.	FHOI	\$427,587
		PEI	\$325,000

	Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc.	PEI	\$110,656
OH	Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.	FHOI	\$499,999
	Fair Housing Contact Services	PEI	\$275,000
	Fair Housing Opportunities dba Fair Housing Center	PEI	\$275,000
	Fair Housing Opportunities Inc. dba Fair Housing Center	EOI	\$125,000
	Fair Housing Resource Center, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
		PEI	\$275,000
	Housing Advocates, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000
	Housing Opportunities Made equal of Greater Cincinnati, Inc.	EOI	\$124,025
		PEI	\$324,359
	Housing Research & Advocacy Center	PEI	\$325,000
	Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
		PEI	\$500,000
OK	Metropolitan Fair Housing Council of Oklahoma, Inc.	PEI	\$324,808
OR	Fair Housing Council of Oregon	PEI	\$325,000
PA	Fair Housing Council of Suburban Philadelphia, Inc.	PEI	\$274,818
	Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh	FHOI	\$98,563
		PEI	\$275,000
	Fair Housing Rights Center of Southeastern Pennsylvania	PEI	\$275,000
	Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
		PEI	\$325,000
	St. Martin Center, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
SC	Charleston Trident Urban League, Inc.	EOI	\$125,000
TN	Tennessee Fair Housing Council, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000
	West Tennessee Legal Services, Inc.	FHOI	\$957,166
		PEI	\$275,000
TX	Austin Tenants Council Inc	PEI	\$324,723
	Greater Houston Fair Housing Center, Inc	PEI	\$325,000
	San Antonio Fair Housing Council, Inc.	PEI	\$275,000

VA	Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia, Inc.	PEI	\$149,404
VT	Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	EOI	\$125,000
	Vermont Legal Aid, Inc.	PEI	\$325,000
WA	Fair Housing Center of Washington	PEI	\$275,000
	Northwest Fair Housing Alliance	PEI	\$325,000
WI	Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, Inc.	EOI	\$124,773
		PEI	\$274,921